Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A process for drying solids initially wet with water, the process comprising:

(a) combining a feed stream from a fermentation process with a first solvent, the feed stream comprising solids having interstitial spaces therebetween and water present in the interstitial spaces and water absorbed by the solids, the first solvent having a heat of vaporization lower than the heat of vaporization of water and being soluble with water;

(b) displacing the water present in the interstitial spaces with the first solvent to provide solids having the first solvent in the interstitial spaces;

(c) combining the feed stream having the first solvent in the interstitial spaces with a second solvent, the second solvent having a heat of vaporization lower than the heat of vaporization of the first solvent and being miscible with the first solvent; and

(d) displacing the first solvent present in the interstitial spaces with the second solvent to provide solids having the second solvent in the interstitial spaces.

2. (Original) The process according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

(e) removing the second solvent from the interstitial spaces of the solids by the application of heat.

3. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the step of combining a feed stream with a first solvent comprises:

(a) combining the feed stream with a first solvent that is an alcohol.

4. (Original) The process according to claim 3, wherein the step of combining a feed stream with a first solvent that is an alcohol comprises:

(a) combining the feed stream with a first solvent that is ethanol.

5. (Original) The process according to claim 3, wherein the step of combining the feed stream with a second solvent comprises:

(a) combining the feed stream with a second solvent that is a halogenated hydrocarbon.

6. (Original) The process according to claim 5, wherein the step of combining the feed stream with a second solvent comprises:

(a) combining the feed stream with a second solvent that is n-propyl bromide.

7. (Original) The process according to claim 3, wherein the step of combining the feed stream with a second solvent comprises:

(a) combining the feed stream with a second solvent that is an ether.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein:

(a) combining a feed stream with a first solvent comprises combining a feed stream with an alcohol;

(b) combining the feed stream with a second solvent comprises combining the feed stream with n-propyl bromide; and the process further comprises:

(c) obtaining an ether product that is at least 95% pure n-propyl bromide; and

(d) obtaining an alcohol product that is at least 90% pure alcohol.

10. (Original) The process according to claim 9, wherein:

(a) combining a feed stream with an alcohol comprises combining with ethanol; and

(b) obtaining an alcohol product that is at least 90% pure alcohol comprises obtaining an alcohol product that is at least 95% pure ethanol.

11. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein:

(a) combining a feed stream with a first solvent comprises combining a feed stream with an alcohol;

(b) combining the feed stream with a second solvent comprises combining the feed stream with an ether; and the process further comprises:

(c) obtaining an ether product that is at least 95% pure ether; and

(d) obtaining an alcohol product that is at least 90% pure alcohol.

12. (Original) The process according to claim 11, wherein:

(a) combining a feed stream with an alcohol comprises combining with ethanol; and

(b) obtaining an alcohol product that is at least 90% pure alcohol comprises obtaining an alcohol product that is at least 95% pure ethanol.

13. **(Currently Amended)** A process for drying solids initially wet with water, the process comprising:

(a) providing a feed stream <u>from a fermentation process</u> comprising solids having interstitial spaces with water and ethanol present in the interstitial spaces and water absorbed by the solids;

(b) providing an ethanol source stream;

(c) providing a second source stream, the second source stream being either an ether source stream or an n-propyl bromide source stream;

(d) displacing the water present in the interstitial spaces with the ethanol source stream to provide solids with ethanol in the interstitial spaces;

(e) displacing the ethanol present in the interstitial spaces with either ether or n-propyl bromide to provide solids with either ether or n-propyl bromide in the interstitial spaces; and

(f) removing the ether or n-propyl bromide from the solids by the application of heat.

14. (Original) The process according to claim 13, wherein said step of displacing the water present in the interstitial spaces with the ethanol to provide solids with ethanol in the interstitial spaces comprises:

(a) in a solid-liquid extractor, displacing the water present in the interstitial spaces with the ethanol to provide solids with ethanol in the interstitial spaces; and

(b) obtaining an aqueous stream comprising the water and ethanol.

15. (Original) The process according to claim 14, further comprising:

(a) feeding the aqueous stream to a liquid-liquid extractor;

(b) providing a third source stream, the third source stream being either an ether source stream or an n-propyl bromide source stream; and

(c) processing the aqueous stream and the third source stream in the liquid-liquid extractor to obtain an aqueous bottom stream comprising water and ethanol and a top organic stream comprising ether or n-propyl bromide and ethanol.

16. (Original) The process according to claim 15, further comprising:

(a) distilling the aqueous bottom stream to obtain an ethanol stream and a water stream.

17. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 14, wherein said step of displacing the ethanol present in the interstitial spaces with either ether or n-propyl bromide to provide solids with either ether or n-propyl bromide in the interstitial spaces comprises:

(a) in a second solid-liquid extractor, displacing the ethanol present in the interstitial spaces with ether or n-propyl bromide to provide solids with ether or n-propyl bromide in the interstitial spaces.

18. (Previously Presented) A process for drying solids from a beer stream initially wet with water, the process comprising:

(a) providing a beer stream comprising solids having interstitial spaces with water and ethanol present in the interstitial spaces;

(b) providing an ethanol source stream;

(c) providing a second source stream, the second source stream being either an ether source stream or an n-propyl bromide source stream;

(d) displacing the water present in the interstitial spaces with the ethanol source stream to provide solids with ethanol in the interstitial spaces;

(e) displacing the ethanol present in the interstitial spaces with either ether or n-propyl bromide to provide solids with either ether or n-propyl bromide in the interstitial spaces;

(f) removing the ether or n-propyl bromide from the solids by the application of heat; and

(g) obtaining:

(i) an ethanol stream that is at least 95% pure ethanol;

(ii) a solvent stream that is at least 95% pure ether or n-propyl bromide;

(iii) a water stream; and

(iv) an oil stream.

19. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 18, wherein said step of displacing the water present in the interstitial spaces with the ethanol to provide solids with ethanol in the interstitial spaces comprises:

(a) in a solid-liquid extractor, displacing the water present in the interstitial spaces with the ethanol to provide solids with ethanol in the interstitial spaces; and

(b) obtaining an aqueous stream comprising the water and ethanol.

20. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 19, further comprising:
    (a) feeding the aqueous stream to a liquid-liquid extractor;
    (b) providing a third source stream, the third source stream being either an ether source stream or an n-propyl bromide source stream; and
    (c) processing the aqueous stream and the third source stream in the liquid-liquid extractor to obtain an aqueous bottom stream comprising water and ethanol and a top organic stream comprising ether or n-propyl bromide and ethanol.

21. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 20, further comprising:
    (a) distilling the aqueous bottom stream to obtain an ethanol stream and a water stream.

22. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 19, wherein said step of displacing the ethanol present in the interstitial spaces with either ether or n-propyl bromide to provide solids with either ether or n-propyl bromide in the interstitial spaces comprises:
    (a) in a second solid-liquid extractor, displacing the ethanol present in the interstitial spaces with ether or n-propyl bromide to provide solids with ether or n-propyl bromide in the interstitial spaces.

23. (New) A process for drying solids initially wet with water, the process comprising:
    (a) combining a feed stream with a first solvent, the feed stream comprising solids having interstitial spaces therebetween and water present in the interstitial spaces and water absorbed by the solids, the first solvent having a heat of vaporization lower than the heat of vaporization of water and being soluble with water;
    (b) displacing the water present in the interstitial spaces with the first solvent to provide solids having the first solvent in the interstitial spaces, the first solvent being an alcohol;
    (c) combining the feed stream having the first solvent in the interstitial spaces with a second solvent, the second solvent having a heat of vaporization lower than the

heat of vaporization of the first solvent and being miscible with the first solvent, the second solvent being one of ETBE and MTBE; and

(d) displacing the first solvent present in the interstitial spaces with the second solvent to provide solids having the second solvent in the interstitial spaces.